

Getting Ready for Sunday!

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

20 October 2024

The Gospel for this Sunday is taken from Mark 10:35-45. It is about James and John the two apostles who are the sons of Zebedee.

They ask Jesus to give them special places of privilege beside Him.

Each one is equally special and precious before God, so how does Jesus deal with this request!

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”



How often do we pray for
what we want instead of
praying to know what
God wants of us?

“What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.



Jesus always listens.

They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

They want special places in heaven.
Don't we all want that too?

“You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said.

“Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with?”

“We can,” they answered.



James and John are committed to Jesus and want to do the right thing.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”



What cup is Jesus talking about? When did He raise a cup? What did it cost Jesus to do the Father's will?

When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.



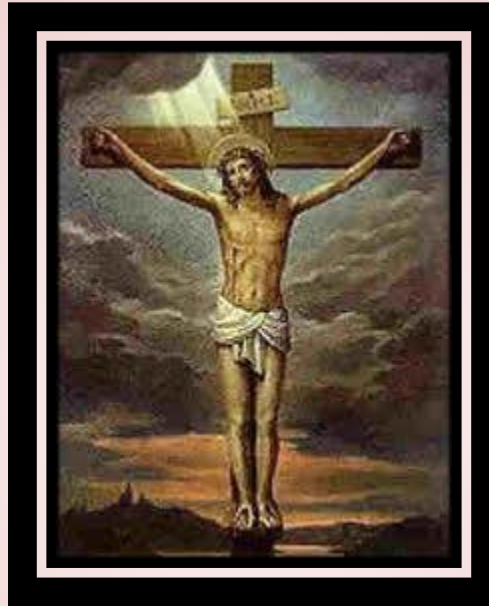
Were the apostles having an 'it's not fair moment'? - do you think? How does Jesus deal with it all?

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.



Jesus asks His apostles to serve others! How can we serve one another? Who does He call us to serve today – at home, school, at work.....

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



Jesus doesn't just tell us what to do!

He shows us how to serve by the example of His own life.





Bible Search

Read Mark 10:35-45 in your family Bible - this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.

Then you might like to read the account of the same story in Matthew 20:20-28.



Activity

- Look up the resources on www.dublindiocese.ie for Mission Sunday.
- Write out the Gospel passage putting yourself into some part of it and then see how it feels to be there. What is Jesus saying to you?
- Consider how you could serve people in your life this week: What are you going to do to share the Good News of Gods love this week?

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Mark 10:35-45

1. Jesus had spent much time teaching his followers that discipleship was a life of service, a life of giving oneself for others. In spite of that James and John were thinking of what they could get out of it. For Jesus, for the apostles, and for each one of us, the glory of God is revealed when we allow God to work through us as we give ourselves for others. When have you found that you reach a fuller life and others benefit when you act in this spirit of service?
2. One of the great problems in a community, a parish or an organisation, is when you have some people jockeying for status and positions of power. The good of the group and the people it serves take second place to personal prestige. You have probably seen this happen. Perhaps you have also witnessed people with a spirit of service that allowed them to value the good of the group over personal rewards. Recall them and give thanks for their witness.
3. Jesus himself is the great model of this spirit of service. Think of the aspects of Jesus' life and ministry that have inspired you to imitate his giving of his life for others.

John Byrne OSA

Email john@orlagh.ie